

## **Peace Corps 50th Anniversary**

**March 1, 2011**



*In 2011, the Peace Corps is commemorating 50 years of promoting peace and friendship around the world.*

### **USG STATEMENTS**



#### **Presidential Proclamation--50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps**

February 28, 2011 - In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed an Executive Order establishing the Peace Corps, forever changing the way America sees the world and the world sees us. Today, one of President Kennedy's most enduring legacies can be found in the over 200,000 current and returned Peace Corps Volunteers who have collectively given over a half century of service to the cause of peace.



#### **50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps**

March 1, 2011 - Fifty years ago a pilot program called the Peace Corps started with President Kennedy's signature, led by Sargent Shriver and fueled by the compassion and generosity of the American people. Today this is the foundation of a public service movement that represents the best the United States has to offer.

### **MISSION & HISTORY OF THE PEACE CORPS**



#### **Mission**

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps to promote world peace and friendship.



#### **History**

The Peace Corps traces its roots and mission to 1960, when then-Sen. John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries. From that inspiration grew a federal government agency devoted to world peace and friendship.



### **[Celebrating 50 Years](#)**

In 2011, the Peace Corps is commemorating 50 years of promoting peace and friendship around the world. Join us in supporting the agency's mission and legacy of service.



### **[Peace Corps Today](#)**

The world has changed since 1961, and the Peace Corps has changed with it. With 8,655 Volunteers in 71 posts serving 77 countries, today's Peace Corps is more relevant than ever.

## **RELATED USG ARTICLES**



### **[State Department and Peace Corps Tackle Energy, Climate Issues](#)**

(America.gov, 06 August 2010) Washington — The Peace Corps, the flagship of U.S. overseas volunteer organizations, has shared with 115 activists from 45 African countries its thinking about increasing the power of volunteerism.



### **[Peace Corps Shares Ideas with Young Africans on Spurring Change](#)**

(America.gov, 06 August 2010) Washington — The Peace Corps, the flagship of U.S. overseas volunteer organizations, has shared with 115 activists from 45 African countries its thinking about increasing the power of volunteerism.

### **[Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams on Agricultural Programs](#)**

(America.gov, 30 March 2010) Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams: We want to be part of Secretary Clinton's new food security initiative. As you know, Peace Corps historically has always been actively involved – it was one of the key areas that were launched by Sargent Shriver.



### **[Peace Corps Promotes Health via Mobile Phone](#)**

(America.gov, 23 March 2010) Washington – The Peace Corps, the United States' premier overseas volunteer agency, is using mobile phones to reach, train and inform health care workers in Africa.

## **USEFUL LINKS FROM PEACECORPS.GOV**

### **[Peace Corps](#)**

### **[Peace Corps 50th Anniversary Timeline 1961-2011](#)**

**[Peace Corps Fact Sheet](#)**

**[Peace Corps Fast Facts](#)**

**[Learn About Volunteering](#)**

**[Peace Corps Documents](#)** (Opinions, Policy Statements, and Staff Manuals, plus HIPAA privacy policy, annual FOIA Reports, GPRA, and Commercial Inventory)